US International Trade Commission's Investigation

1025. SHRI RAMCHANDRA BHARADWAJ:
DR. H. P. SHARMA:
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the US Inernational Trade Commission had started an investigation in last September into the allegation made by the US Steel industry, that India was subsidising and dumping into America welded carbon steel pipes and tubes;

(b) if so, what was the quantum of these items exported to the USA during 1984 and till September. 1985 and how much subsidy was paid on this account during the said period and

(c) how far the above allegation was correct?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) (a) On 16 July, 1985, petitions were filed with US International Trade Commission and the US Department of Commerce by the Counsels for individual producer members of the Sub-committee on Standard and line pipes of the Commission on Pipes and Tubes imports, which is a trade association The petitioners alleged that the imports of welded carbon steel standards pipes & tubes from India were being dumped and subsidised;

(b) and (c) The quantum of these items imported into USA from India was, 1985 tons in 1984 and 5,303 tons during January—June, 1985 according to statistics furnished by the US authorities.

Export of steel pipes and tubes from India are entitled to 5 per cent Cash Compensatory Support. The entire 5 per cent of CCS has been preliminarily determined to be a subsidy by the US Department of Commerce and a provisional countervailing duty of 5 per cent has been imposed on the imports of this product from India. We have pointed out that CCS basically refunds indirect taxes not otherwise rebated through duty drawback. Such refund is not considered to be subsidy according to the provisions of the GATT. A US team visited India recently for investigation and on the basis of the report of this team, a final determination regarding the subsidy is expected to made by 23 December, 1985.

No determination has been made by the US Department of Commerce regarding dumping.

Clandestine gold transaction by a deading jeweller's firm of Delhi

1026. DR. H. P. SHARMA.
SHRIMATI MAIMOONA SULTAN:

Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that in one of the Customs authorities booked a leading jeweller's firm of Delhi for clandestine gold transaction involving around 200 Kgs. of gold; and

(b) if so, what are the details in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI JANARDHAN POOJARI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) All the four licenced premises of M|s. Mehra Stons Jewellers located at Connaught Place; Greater Kailash, South Extension and Karol Bagh were searched, resulting in a seizure of 2.03 Kgs. of unaccounted gold jewelery valued at Rs. 2,72227.00 and a detection of shortage of 2.57 Kgs. of gold jewellery valued at Rs. 5,02,691.00. Besides the above incriminating documents were seized which has revealed a clandestine trasaction of gold jewellery weighing 200.023 Kgs, valued at Rs. 4.00,17,450.00